

"Extract from Entry from Marquis KIDO's Diary, 15 July 41"

MATSUDAIRA came from Tokyo at eight a.m. to report on the outcome of his meeting with Premier KONOYE. There still remained a certain vagueness about Foreign Minister MATSUOKA's attitude towards the proposal formula for a Japan-American understanding. Under the circumstances, up to yesterday the Premier was of the opinion that should the Foreign Minister agree to the formula prepared by the Director of Military Affairs and the Director of Naval Affairs, with a few alterations he would push the policy as it was. Although the Foreign Minister had no objection to the formula, he insisted on giving instructions to Ambassador NOMURA in Washington to the effect that the Government would reject the oral statement of Mr. Cordell Hull, as it was of a disgraceful nature for Japan. After that he said that he would wire a compromise formula to Admiral Kichisaburo NOMURA. But Prince KONOYE was of the opinion that our formula should be wired at the same time, because if we followed MATSUOKA's idea, there would be a possibility that America might take it as our intention to discontinue the negotiations. Advisor SAITO advised that since it could be done by the Ambassador as deemed best, how about carrying it on according to the Foreign Minister's view? But the Premier contradicted him and sent him to Mr. MATSUOKA in order to persuade him to agree with the Premier's opinion. Such was the position about 10:30 yesterday evening. At 1:30 this morning Prince KONOYE telephoned me to say that he had waited long for MATSUOKA's answer in vain, so he had sent Director TERAZAKI to Mr. MATSUOKA to hold an enquiry into the circumstances. It became clear that he had sent his instructions to NOMURA by himself and not through the medium of the competent director, and that he intended to call on me at Hayama to work out remedial measures. I had a conference with the chief secretary regarding policy in the event of the expected resignation en bloc of the Cabinet. At this time when the tension prevailing over the people regarding the present political situation was so strong that even some higher schools closed lest disturbances should arise an overall political change for some unknown reason should be avoided by all means. For this purpose we should try everything possible to obtain, first of all, the resignation of the Foreign Minister. In the case of failure of our effort to make the Foreign Minister resign, resulting in the resignation 'en bloc' of the Cabinet, we resolve to prevail upon the Emperor to issue an Imperial command to Prince KONOYE to form a new Cabinet in order to tide over the difficult political situation.

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I went to my office at 11 a.m. I was received in audience by the Emperor from 1:35 p.m. to 2 p.m. to report on the above circumstances. Prince KONOYE came to see me from Tokyo at 3 p.m. We had a talk until 4:30 p.m. What I heard from the Premier was almost the same as the information I had received from the Chief Secretary.

I thought it was advisable to urge Mr. MATSUOKA's resignation to avoid a change of Cabinet, but the Premier disagreed with me saying that if this were done Mr. MATSUOKA and his party would make propaganda to the effect that the cause which had compelled his resignation was nothing but pressure on the part of the U.S.A. upon our Government.

木戸侯爵日記

昭和十六年七月十五日分

七月十五日（火）

曇

午前八時松平秘書官長東京ヨリ來訪

近衛首相ト連絡ノ結果ニツキ報告ヲ得タリ

一日米諒解案ニ就テハ依然松岡外相ノ態度ニ
釋然タラザルモノアリ

一昨日迄ノ情況ニテハ首相ハ陸海兩軍務局長
ノ手許ニテ作製セル案ニ對シ外相ニ於テ些
少ノ修正ニテ應諾スル様ナレバ此儘ニテ進
ム考ヘナリシガ

外相ハ昨日軍務局長案ヲ見テ案ニハ異存ナキ
モハル長官ノオーラルステートメントハ國辱
ナレバ先ヅ之ヲ拒否スル旨ノ電訓ヲ野村大使
ニ與ヘ然ル後ニ諒解案ヲ電訓シタシトノ意見
ナルガ之ニ對シ首相ハ若シ右ノ如ク進ベバ米
國側ハ當然從來ノ交渉ヲ打切ルモノト考フル
ノ虞アレバ之ヲ同時ニ電訓スルヲ可トストノ
意見ナリキ右ニ對シ齋藤顧問ハ大使ニ於テ可
然取計フベケレバ外相ノ意見ノ通り進ビテハ

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EX 1115

1.

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2.

如何トノコトナリシガ首相ハ之ニ同意セズ同
顧問ヲ外相ノ許ニ遣シ首相ノ意見ニ同意ヲ求
メシメタリ以上ガ昨夜十時半頃迄ノ状況ナリ
然ルニ今晩一時半首相ヨリ電話ニテ其後一向
返事ナキヲ以テ寺崎局長ヲシテ取調サセタル
ニ大使ハノ電話ハ十一時半頃ニ局長ヲ通サズ
既ニ發セラレタル事實判明セリヨツテ本日午
後ニテ業山ニ至リ内大臣ト今後ノ處置ニツキ
談合ヒタシトノコトナリト

右ニツキ秘書官長ト萬一總辭職ノ場合ニ處ス
ル方針ニツキ打合ス

今日ノ實情ヨリスレバ高等學校ノ生徒等迄足
止メシテ暴張セル國民ニ對シ政變ソレモ理由
ノ不明瞭ナル政變ハ絶對ニ避クルコトヲ要ス
ル故先ヅ第一ハ外相ヲ辭職セシムルコト萬一
ソレガ實現出來ザル事情アリタル場合ハ總辭
職ノ外ナキモ其ノ場合ニハ再降下ノ方針ヲ以
テ飽ク迄モ近衛公ヲシテ重大事務局ノ收拾ニ當
ラシムルコトニ決意ス

十一時出湯

一時三十三分ヨリ二時迄拜謁以上ノ事情ノ大
要ヲ言上ス

三時近衛首相東京ヨリ参邸

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3.

直ニ面合五時二十分迄懸置ス。大東總督官長
ヨリ聴キタルト同様ノ事情ナリヨツテ余ハ此
際出来得ル限り政變ヲ避クル爲メ外相ノ處決
ヲ求ムルコトヲ願ハタルモ首相ハ其ノ場合ニ
ハ松岡側ハ必ズ米國ノ注文ニテ内閣ヲ改選シ
タリト云フ宣旨ヲサスベク之ハ其ノ影響面白
カラスト愿ヒスル」故總理職ノ外ナシトノ旨

ニテ容易ニ納得セラレザリキ

四時二十分近衛公卿謁ス御前ヲ退下後五時二
十分ヨリ同四十分迄更ニ面談能得シタルモ納
得セラルノニ至ラザリキ

六時通達子ニ歸ル東京ヨリ富田豊次郎君同夫
人鶴子ト共ニ來訪

小松侯令嬢のぶ子さんヲ孝澄ノ配偶ニトノ話
ハ顧問ニ進ミ小松侯ノ方ニテモ妥當ナシトノ
コトニテ已決定スタ食ヲ共ニス孝澄孝彦夜來

廻